

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /022 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:PPERENYI:HHB

APPROVED BY S/PRS - ROBERT L. FUNSETH

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 181064 TOSEC 080224

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING, THURSDAY, JULY 31, 1975

FOR BREMER AND COVEY FROM S/PRS

FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF SPOKESMAN FUNSETH'S RESPONSES AT
JULY 31 DAILY BRIEFING:

ONLY MAJOR SUBJECT OF QUESTIONS WAS BEECHER REPORT IN BOSTON
GLOBE, JULY 31, THAT "SENIOR AMERICAN ANALYSTS" BELIEVE
ISRAEL HAS MORE THAN TEN NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

FUNSETH SAID WE HAD NO COMMENT ON THIS PRESS REPORT, BUT HE
NOTED RABIN'S DECEMBER 17, 1974 STATEMENT IN DANISH
TELEVISION INTERVIEW THAT ISRAEL WAS NOT A NUCLEAR POWER AND
RABIN'S FURTHER STATEMENT THAT THIS MEANT ISRAEL HAD NO
NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT RABIN HAD REPEATED GOI POLICY THAT ISRAEL
WOULD NOT BE THE FIRST TO INTRODUCE NUCLEAR WEAPONS INTO
THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT.

WITH REFERENCE TO NPT, HE REITERATED THAT AS A GENERAL
PRINCIPLE THE US GOVERNMENT STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT EVERY
STATE SHOULD ADHERE TO THE NPT. INGERSOLL
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